

CABINET COUNCIL ON MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Meeting #11  
May 12, 1983, 3:15 p.m.  
The Roosevelt Room

MINUTES

Attendees: Meese, Hodel, Carmen, Devine, McNamar, Triplett, Smith, Bledsoe, Dunlop, Platt, Walters, Cohen, Schoeni, Risque, Franklin

1. Upcoming Meeting Topics

Mr. Meese announced that Occupational Opportunities for Women would be discussed at the Cabinet Meeting of May 18 (moved to May 24) and that an update on Reform 88 would be presented at the CCMA meeting of May 17 (now June 9).

2. Federal Field Structure Report

Mr. Carmen briefed the Council on his working group's findings and recommendations which were reviewed and approved for presentation to the President and the Cabinet.

The working group found that the field staff of 874,000 employees (non-DOD, non-postal) costs \$26 billion annually, and is too large, too expensive, and too inefficient; that there is excessive organizational redundancy, and a wide divergence of organizational layering and span of control; and that significant opportunities exist for consolidating common administrative services among agencies. Mr. Carmen noted that a reduction of field positions may be achievable and could save several billion dollars annually.

Recommendations included the issuance of an Executive Order establishing the Administration's policy, goals, and objectives for Federal field operations, followed by a more specific Presidential Management Directive calling for detailed agency implementation plans by September 30, 1983.

Mr. Carmen stressed the need for Cabinet commitment and congressional involvement in the achievement of this initiative. Discussion centered around the political difficulties both in selecting areas for reduction and in dealing with Congressional interests to accomplish them.

Mr. Meese acknowledged the difficulties but urged that we move ahead without delay.